

coming from northwestern Europe. Scandinavians, English, Scotch, Irish and Germans were the most numerous immigrants in the Censuses between 1890 and 1920. In the Census of 1920 immigrants from Europe and Canada amounted to over 850— nearly 18 percent of the county population. After 1920 immigration from Scandinavia, the British Isles, Germany, Finland and Canada decreased because of United States quota limits on the number who could come to America for land or employment. By 1950 foreign-born population made up only about 5 percent of Mason County's residents.

There is an American Indian population of about 275 persons living in Mason County according to the last Census. Most of these reside on the Skokomish and Squaxin Island Reservations which front on Hood Canal and Puget Sound.

Table 4.— Foreign-Born White Population, Mason County
1890, 1920 and 1950

Country of Birth	1890	1920	1950
England and Wales.....	87	87	73
Scotland.....	36	17	15
Northern Ireland.....	--	--	--
Ireland (Eire).....	64	31	22
Norway.....	78	100	81
Sweden.....	91	146	88
Denmark.....	12	44	26
Netherlands.....	3	6	7
Switzerland.....	8	8	--
France.....	9	13	5
Germany.....	54	66	64
Poland.....	--	11	13
Czechoslovakia.....	1	--	8
Austria.....	4	17	8
Yugoslavia.....	--	29	8
Russia (U.S.S.R.).....	39	3	7
Finland.....	--	97	55
Italy.....	1	2	8
Canada-French.....	--	8	15
Canada-Other.....	335	159	238
All other countries...	28	13	53
Totals	850	857	794
Percent foreign-born	30	17.5	5.3

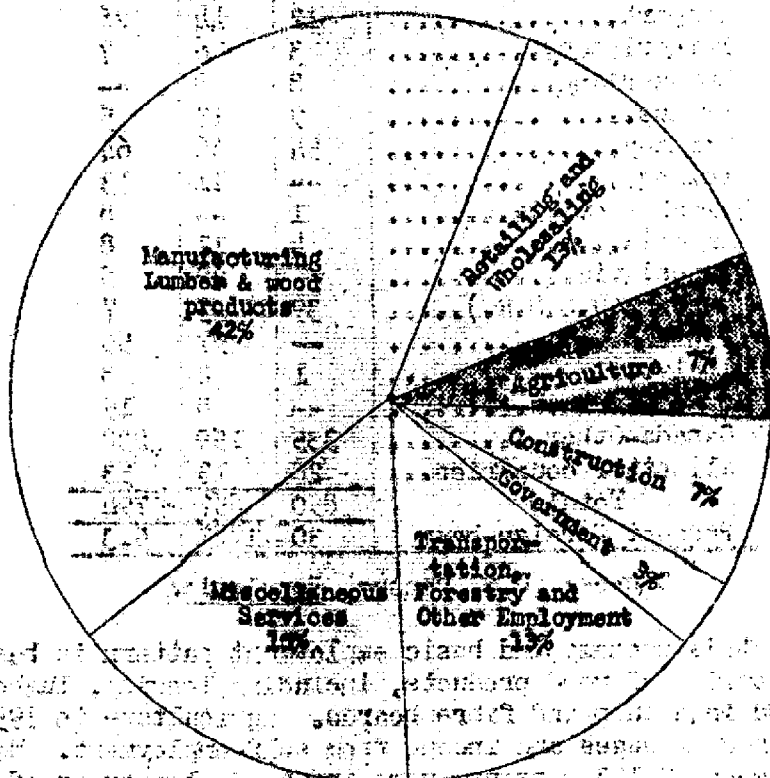
Source: U.S. Census, Population

Mason County's economy and basic employment pattern is based predominantly on the manufacturing of wood products, including logging, lumbering and processing of wood into pulp and fibre boards. Agriculture in 1950 ranked only fifth as a source of wages and income from self-employment. Nearly half of the labor force, or 2,193 persons, were in manufacturing as of 1950. Employment in miscellaneous services was second largest and wholesale and retail store employment was third in payroll importance. The change from less farm employment to more industrial and commercial employment, observed in Mason County since 1940, is a common trend in western Washington.

**Table 5.—Employment of the Population
Mason County, 1950**

Types of Employment	Male Workers	Female Workers	Total Workers	Percent of Workers
Total employed workers	4,141	1,097	5,238	100.0
Agriculture.....	343	42	385	7
Forestry and fisheries.....	175	63	238	5
Mining.....	2	—	2	—
Construction.....	333	5	338	7
Manufacturing.....	2,075	118	2,193	42
Transportation.....	92	20	112	2
Retail and wholesale stores.....	401	303	704	13
Miscellaneous services.....	399	400	799	15
Public administration (government employment).....	110	69	179	3
Other employment.....	211	77	288	6

Source: U.S. Census, Population



**Figure 3.—Agricultural Employment Compared With Other
Employment in Mason County, 1950**

(Based on U.S. Census of Population, 1950)